

Amendments to the Drawings

Applicants have amended Figs. 10-12 to add the legend --PRIOR ART-- to address an objection to the drawings. Figs. 10-12 are properly identified as prior art in the original specification. However, legends identifying the drawings of Figs. 10-12 as prior art were inadvertently omitted. No new matter has been added by amendment of the drawings. The replacement sheets containing revised Figs. 10-12 are attached at the end of this paper.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, and 7 are pending in the application, as amended. Claims 2 and 4-6 have been cancelled. An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) and § 1.17(p) is being filed herewith to address comments by the Examiner relative to a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed January 11, 2005. The drawings have been amended to add legends properly identifying Figs. 10-12 as PRIOR ART. The abstract has been amended to address an objection of the Examiner. No new matter has been added by the foregoing amendments.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Examiner noted that the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed on January 13, 2005 disclosed a reference, KR 1999-014032, in a foreign language, without an accompanying concise explanation of the relevance of the reference. A second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith, disclosing KR 1999-014032, and including an English abstract of the reference. Applicants respectfully request consideration and acknowledgement of the second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to Figs. 10-12 for failure to designate as --PRIOR ART-- that illustrated which is old. In accordance with the Examiner's comments, Figs. 10, 11, and 12 have been amended to include the legend --PRIOR ART--. Applicants respectfully submit that the drawings as amended are in full compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a) and 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d), and respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Objection to the Specification

The Examiner objected to the abstract of the disclosure for including the phrase "in accordance with the present invention". In accordance with the Examiner's comments, the

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abstract has been amended to eliminate the phrase "in accordance with the present invention". Applicants respectfully submit that the abstract as amended is in full compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.72(b) and MPEP § 608.01(b), and respectfully requests that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 – Claims 2 and 4-6

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 and 4-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,177,403 (Kawaguchi *et al.*) in view of JP 09293457 (Yasuhiro). The rejections of claims 2 and 4-6 are each moot in view of cancellation of these claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation that the Examiner has found claims 1, 3, and 7 to be allowed.

CONCLUSION

Insofar as the Examiner's rejections were fully addressed, the instant application, including claims 1, 3, and 7, is in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowability of all pending claims is therefore earnestly solicited.

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